

News from the Illinois Commerce Commission

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ICC approves highway-railroad improvements near Christopher

The Illinois Commerce Commission has approved plans for a public safety improvement project involving the installation of automatic flashing light signals and gates controlled by constant warning time circuitry, and improvement of the highway approach grades at the Urbain Road (Township Road 229B) highway-rail grade crossing of the Illinois Central Railroad Company's track near Christopher, Franklin County.

The total estimated cost for the safety improvements is \$120,142. The Grade Crossing Protection Fund (GCPF) will be used to pay 95 percent of the installation costs, not to exceed \$107,485. The Illinois Central Railroad Company will pay all remaining installation costs, as well as all future operating and maintenance costs. The project must be completed by Nov. 29, 2007.

ABOUT THE GRADE CROSSING PROTECTION FUND (GCPF)

Project selection and management of GCPF highway-rail safety projects include safety improvements such as the installation of new warning systems, highway approach improvements and the construction/reconstruction of grade separation structures. The Commission administers the GCPF, which is funded by motor fuel tax money designated for rail safety improvements. The General Assembly appropriates \$27 million annually for GCPF projects.

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